

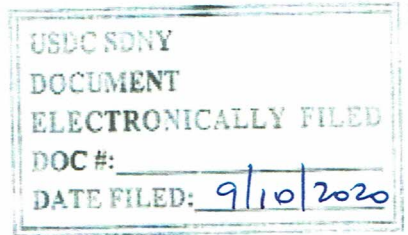


## U.S. Department of Justice

United States Attorney  
Southern District of New York

United States District Courthouse  
300 Quarropas Street  
White Plains, New York 10601

September 10, 2020



## By CM/ECF and Electronic Mail

The Honorable Nelson S. Román  
United States District Judge  
Southern District of New York  
300 Quarropas Street  
New York, New York 10601

The Government's request to adjourn the Status Conf. from Sept. 16, 2020 until Oct. 14, 2020 at 1:00 pm is granted. Clerk of the Court requested to terminate the motion (doc. 20).

Dated: Sept. 10, 2020

SO ORDERED.

Re: ***United States v. Fernando Fuentes-Reyna and Victor Guzman,***  
**19 Cr. 736 (NSR)**

*Nelson S. Román*  
Nelson S. Román, U.S.D.J.

Dear Judge Román:

The Government writes respectfully, on behalf of all parties, to request an adjournment of the status conference originally scheduled for tomorrow, September 11, 2020, and recently adjourned to September 16, 2020.

On March 25, 2020, the Court adjourned the status conference scheduled for March 27, 2020, to May 28, 2020, at 12:30 p.m., in light of COVID-19 and the emergency declarations from the President and the Governor. That same day, the Court excluded time, pursuant to the Speedy Trial Act, 18 U.S.C. § 3161(h)(7)(A), through May 28, 2020. On May 27, 2020, the Court again adjourned the status conference, this time to July 9, 2020, and again excluded time, for substantially the same reasons. On July 8, 2020, the Court again adjourned the status conference, this time to September 11, 2020, and again excluded time, for substantially the same reasons. Two days ago, on September 8, 2020, this Court again adjourned the status conference, this time to September 16, 2020, although it did not exclude time.

The parties continue to discuss potential dispositions, but those discussions are moving more slowly than usual, due to the continued restrictions imposed as a result of COVID-19. As presently contemplated, those dispositions would require in-person plea-change conferences, which this Court is not currently accommodating. If the parties appeared next week, they expect they would ask for an adjournment in order to continue those discussions. Accordingly, in order to preserve judicial resources, and minimize unnecessary travel during the pendency of various emergency orders, the parties respectfully request that next week's conference be adjourned for approximately one month.

Hon. Nelson S. Román  
September 11, 2020  
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I have communicated with the Court's deputy, who told me that the Court is available on October 14, 2020, at 1:00 p.m. Accordingly, the Government respectfully requests that next week's conference be adjourned to October 14, 2020, at 1:00 p.m.


Additionally, the ends of justice served by granting a continuance outweigh the best interests of the public and the defendants in a speedy trial, because, among other things, it will allow defense counsel to review discovery with their clients, determine what pre-trial motions, if any, to make and prepare such motions, prepare for trial, and engage in disposition discussions. Accordingly, the Government respectfully requests that time be excluded pursuant to the Speedy Trial Act, 18 U.S.C. § 3161(h)(7)(A), though October 14, 2020, or such other date that this Court sets for the adjourned conference. Defense counsel have consented to such an exclusion of time. I have attached a proposed order excluding time.

Please feel free to contact me with any questions or issues.

Respectfully submitted,

AUDREY STRAUSS  
Acting United States Attorney

By:

  
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